Tourism development in Kerala

841. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals of tourism development in Kerala are pending with Centre for necessary clearance;

(b) if so, the details of the project pending for clearance; and

(c) the reason for the delay in issuing clearance to the project?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of places/spots of tourist interests is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance on the basis of project proposals prioritized in consultation with the State Governments.

During 2007-08, 12 proposals have been received from the Kerala Government and details of these proposals are given in the Statement (*See* below). Proposals which are complete in all respect as per guidelines are processed on *inter-se* priority basis and funds released subject to availability under the respective head.

During the current financial year, the following proposals have already been sanctioned for Central Financial Assistance to the Government of Kerala:

1. Destination Development of Wayanad for Rs. 201.72 lakhs

2. Development of Kodungallur Heritage Tourism Circuit for Rs. 361.75 lakhs

3. Development of Pathiramanal Bio Park for Rs. 499.61 lakhs.

Statement

List of proposals received from Kerala Government during 2007-08

1. Development of Kalamandalam as a tourist destination
2. Development of Kasaragod and Bekal
3. Development of Kozikode as a destination—Sarovaram Wetland Nature Park
4. Development of Farm Tourism in the Estates of Plantation Corp. of Kerala Ltd.
5. Onam and Nishagandha Festivals
6. Pooram Festival
7. Destination Development of Elephant Park at Punnathoor (Additional work)
8. Development of Mangalam Dam as a Tourist Destination
9. Development of Kottakkunnu in Malappuram as a Tourist Destination
10. Development of Wayanad in Kerala
11. Development of Kodungallur Heritage Circuit, Kerala
12. Development of Pathiramanal Bio Park, Kerala

Tourist circuits in Uttarakhand

†842. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for sanctioning some new tourist circuits in Uttarakhand during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.